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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCI)

(51) International Patent Classification 6:		(11) International Publication Number: WO 98/0014
A61K 35/20	A1	(43) International Publication Date: 8 January 1998 (08.01.5
21) International Application Number	7/EP97/034 97 (01.07.9	BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, US, C GH, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, L LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, N DI PT RO RU. SD. SE. SG. SL. SK, SL, TJ, TM, 7
30) Priority Data: MI96A001354 MI96A002275 2 July 1996 (02.07.96) 31 October 1996 (31.10 71) Applicant (for all designated States except US LIMITED [-/-]; Wickham's Cay, Road To	.96) 5): SYLV	TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (G KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, A BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, E CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, N PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, G ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
(VG).	J. 1011	Published
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PHARMACEUTICAL FORMULATIONS CONTAINING COLOSTRUM AND THEIR USE

The present invention relates to pharmaceutical formulations containing animal colostrum for the treatment of intestine inflammatory diseases and anorectal disturbances, and the use of colostrum for the treatment of intestine inflammatory diseases and anorectal disturbances.

The etiology of chronic inflammatory diseases of the intestine, such as Crohn' disease, ulcerative colitis and segmentary ileitis, is still unknown: a immunological, bacterial, dietetic number psychosomatic factors have been considered, but up to now no definite hypothesis have been proved. treatment of said diseases involves, in addition to corticosteroids, of the use measures, dietetic antibacterials antibiotics, immunosuppressors, psychoactive drugs. Since such diseases have a chronic course, or relapses and remissions alternate, the need for a treatment alternative to the long-term ones with the above mentioned drugs is evident. Finally, in the most serious cases, which do not respond to treatment, surgery is taken into consideration.

Anorectal disturbances such as hemorrhoids, anorectal fistulas and anal fissures can be the outcome of vascular problems, of inflammatory conditions of the intestinal tract, or they can be of a traumatic or congenital origin. All of said conditions are characterized by a remarkable worsening of the symptoms

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(pain, bleeding) following defecation, therefore the treatment consists in the use of rectum lubricants and of agents making stools softer (natural or semisynthetic polysaccharides and cellulose derivatives such as bran, psyllium and methylcellulose) thanks to an increased absorption of liquids in the intestinal tract. However, such an approach is not always sufficient to resolve the condition, and it is often necessary to resort to surgery, which often involves a long, rather painful post-surgery course. Therefore a valid alternative to surgery is highly desirable.

The present invention aims at overcoming the above cited problems, by the use of pharmaceutical formulations containing equine, bovine or anyhow animal, but preferably equine, colostrum, for the treatment of intestine inflammatory diseases and anorectal disturbances.

The present invention further relates to the use of equine, bovine or anyhow animal, but preferably equine, colostrum, for the treatment of intestine inflammatory diseases and anorectal disturbances.

It has surprisingly been found that colostrum, administered to patients suffering from intestine inflammatory diseases and anorectal disturbances, exerts a remarkable antiinflammatory and epithelizing action on the involved tract of intestine, thus improving the general conditions of the treated patient, particularly causing the disappearance of bleeding, abdomen cramps and diarrhoea crisis typical of these conditions. Moreover, colostrum acts favourably inducing effectively and physiologically the evacuation, without causing any

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side-effects.

In fact, clinical trials on 20 patients, showed a favourable response of 17 patients to the treatment with colostrum, attaining in very short times a remarkable improvement in the symptoms.

The pharmaceutical formulations of invention contain powder or liquid colostrum in amounts of 500 mg to 5 g per unitary dose.

More particularly, the formulations of the invention comprise gastro-resistant formulations such as tablets containing powdered, freeze-dried or sprayzed colostrum or pearls containing liquid colostrum, as well as rectal formulations such as suppositories containing powdered, freeze-dried or sprayzed colostrum or enemas containing liquid colostrum.

The formulations of invention are prepared according to the conventional pharmaceutical techniques for the preparation of gastro-resistant and rectal formulations.

The enteric coating is used to protect colostrum against the gastric acid environment, such a coating can consist of copolymerized methacrylic acid/methacrylic acid methyl esters, such as those known under the names Eudragit^R (commercialized by Rohm Pharma), polymers such as cellulose acetate phthalate, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose phthalate, water-based polymer dispersions, such as Eudragit^R (by Rohm Pharma), Aquateric^R (FMC Corp.). The enteric coating can optionally contain plasticizers such as triacetin, cetanol, citric and phthalic acids esters.

The formulations of the invention can optionally

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contain other active ingredients known to have a beneficial effect on the condition to treat.

According to a further aspect of the invention, the formulations can contain colostrum mixed with $\bar{m}ilk$.

5 The following examples further illustrate the invention.

Example 1

One enteric-coated tablet contains:

	Powder colostrum	110 mg
10	Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose phthalate	6 лд
	Cetyl alcohol	0.5 mg
	The enteric coating solution is applied on the	colostrum
	core by fluidized bed coating.	
	Example 2	

One enteric-coated tablet contains:

Powder colostrum	64 mg
Powder milk	45 mg
Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose phthalate	32 mg
Cetyl alcohol	· 5 mg

The enteric coating solution is applied on the colostrum core by fluidized bed coating.

Example 3

One suppository contains:

	Powder colostrum	250 mg
25	Saturated polyglycosylated glycerides	150 mg
	Solid semi-synthetic glycerides	2600 mg
	Example 4	

Enema

	Powder colostrum	. 300	mg
30	Saturated polyglycosylated glycerides	150	mg
	Saturated triglycerides	1550	mg

CLAIMS

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- 1. Pharmaceutical formulations containing colostrum for the treatment of intestine inflammatory diseases and anorectal disturbances.
- 2. Pharmaceutical formulations according to claim 1, wherein the colostrum is equine, bovine or anyhow animal, but preferably equine, colostrum.
- Formulations according to claims 1 and 2, in the
 form of gastro-resistant formulations or rectal formulations.
 - 4. Gastro-resistant formulations according to claim 3, in the form of tablets containing powdered, freeze-dried or sprayzed colostrum or pearls containing liquid colostrum.
 - 5. Rectal formulations according to claim 3, in the form of suppositories containing powdered, freeze-dried or sprayzed colostrum or enemas containing liquid colostrum.
- 20 6. Formulations according to the above claims, containing 500 mg to 5 g of powder or liquid colostrum per unitary dose.
 - 7. Formulations according to claims 3 and 4, wherein the powder colostrum is freeze-dried or sprayzed.
- 8. Formulations according to the above claims, further containing powder milk.
 - 9. The use of colostrum for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of intestine inflammatory diseases and anorectal disturbances.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

total Application No PCT/EP 97/03411

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Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1992)

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